

Message Text

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 00306 101227Z

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 101041Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2797

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASEY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCPAC

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 0306

EXDIS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PK

SUBJ: A VISIT WITH THE BHUTTOS AT LARKANA

1. BEING ONE WHO THINKS THERE SHOULD IN GENERAL BE
MORE FLAVOR IN OUR REPORTING, AND THAT SOMETIMES FORM
DOES IN FACT EQUAL SUBSTANCE, THIS MESSAGE WILL ONLY REPORT
ATMOSPHERICS DURING OUR TWO-DAY VISIT WITH THE BHUTTOS
AT THEIR COUNTRY ESTATE AT LARKANA JANUARY 7-9.

2. WE FLEW DOWN AND BACK WITH PRESIDENT ELAHI WHO
ADVANCED HIS DEPARTURE TIME SO THAT I COULD GET TO THE
DUCK SHOOT ON TIME. BHUTTO GOT THREE DUCKS AND I GOT
FIFTEEN. AS I INSISTED I WOULD NOT SHOOT WITHIN
RANGE OF HIM, DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED. MY GUESS
IS THAT HE WAS "POLITICKING" WITH SOME ONE INSTEAD
OF SHOOTING, AS HE IS PRETTY GOOD*

3. BEING IN THIS TYPE OF SETTING WITH BHUTTO, HE
SECRET

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REMINDS ME SO MUCH OF MARCOS THE POLITICIAN. TITLES
CHANGE BUT THERE WAS THE SAME ATMOSPHERE OF PEOPLE
COMING FROM ALL OVER TO MEET WITH HIM, OR WHO WERE
SUMMONED BY HIM. THIS TIME IT WAS CABINET MEMBERS,

CHIEF MINISTERS, BUSINESS TYCOONS, MNA'S, ETC. THERE
WERE NO OTHER DIPLOMATS.

4. THE BHUTTOS AND WE CHOPPED TO HIS RESIDENCE IN LARKANA FROM THE HUNTING GROUNDS WHILE THE OTHERS DROVE, SO THAT HE AND I COULD HAVE A PRIVATE TALK BEFORE A BUSY AFTERNOON WITH OTHERS. OUR TALK WAS IN THE MAIN IN GENERAL TERMS, PROBABLY AS USEFUL IN GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER AS FOR ITS SUBSTANCE. REPORT FOLLOWS IN SEPTEL. IN THE EVENING THERE WAS A CULTURAL PERFORMANCE FOLLOWING DINNER.

5. THE NEXT MORNING THE PRESIDENT TOOK US TO THE MOHENJODARO RUINS WHILE BHUTTO CONFERRED WITH HIS OTHER GUESTS. WE FLEW BACK TO ISLAMABAD AFTER A SMALL LUNCH WITH THE BHUTTOS WHERE GUESTS WERE BOTH IMPORTANT AND INTERESTING. TO MY SURPRISE EX-GOVERNOR BUGTI OF BALUCHISTAN (WHO HAD JUST RESIGNED) WAS THERE AND RELATIONS BETWEEN HIM AND BHUTTO APPEARED WARM. THE HEAD OF THE SWATANTRA PARTY IN INDIA AND FORMER CLASSMATE OF BHUTTO, PILOO MODY, WAS THERE TELLING BHUTTO THAT IT WAS A GREAT MISTAKE TO HAVE NATIONALIZED BANKS AS BANK NATIONALIZATION WAS TURNING INTO A MISERABLE FAILURE IN INDIA. BHUTTO IS PLANNING TO SPEND MOST OF JANUARY TRAVELING IN THE SIND, WITH POLITICS BEING THE REAL NAME OF THE GAME.
BYROADE

SECRET

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